

What Is Claimed Is:

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- 1 1. ~~A system for monitoring the use of a display by a user, the system~~
2 comprising:
3 a display used by the user for performance of a task; and
4 a first sensor positioned relative to the display and selected from the group consisting
5 of a distance sensor and a light sensor.
- 1 2. The system of claim 1, further comprising a communication link
2 between the system and a computer system accessible using a hypertext protocol.
- 1 3. The system of claim 1, wherein the display is selected from the group
2 consisting of a CRT monitor, an LCD monitor and a flat panel.
- 1 4. The system of claim 3, wherein the first sensor is incorporated into a
2 bezel of the display or structure supporting the display.
- 1 5. The system of claim 1, further comprising at least three light sensors
2 positioned to determine a source of multidirectional light relative to the user.
- 1 6. The system of claim 1, wherein the first sensor includes an incorporated
2 camera or an incorporated imaging sensor.
- 1 7. The system of claim 6, wherein incorporated camera or an incorporated
2 imaging sensor is capable of monitoring blink rate.
- 1 8. The system of claim 1, further comprising a computer for processing
2 inputs from the first sensor.
- 1 9. The system of claim 1, further comprising a cable coupling the first
2 sensor to the system.
- 1 10. The system of claim 1, wherein the first sensor is positioned to
2 monitor the display.
- 1 11. The system of claim 1, wherein the first sensor is positioned on top of
2 the display.
- 1 12. The system of claim 1, further comprising a remote input device.

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1 13. The system of claim 1, wherein the first sensor is a distance sensor.

1 14. The system of claim 1, wherein the first sensor is a light sensor.

1 15. A method for determining a viewing distance, wherein the viewing
2 distance relates to a distance between a user and a display, using a distance sensor
3 positioned in a known position relative to the display, comprising the steps of:
4 positioning the user in front of the display in order to perform a task using the
5 display;
6 allowing the distance sensor to measure a viewing distance between the distance
7 sensor and the user; and
8 receiving an analysis of the measurement.

1 16. A method for determining a viewing distance, wherein the viewing
2 distance relates to a distance between a user and a display, using a distance sensor
3 positioned in a known position relative to the display, comprising the steps of:
4 positioning the user in front of the display in order to perform a task using the
5 display;
6 allowing the distance sensor to measure a viewing distance between the distance
7 sensor and the user;
8 receiving an analysis of the measurement; and
9 using a light sensor to measure ambient light in an environment of the user.

1 17. A method for determining a viewing distance, wherein the viewing
2 distance relates to a distance between a user and a display, using a distance sensor
3 positioned in a known position relative to the display, comprising the steps of:
4 providing a distance sensor to measure a viewing distance between the distance
5 sensor and the user while the user performs a task using the display;
6 providing a software program that accepts input from the distance sensor of a
7 measured distance; and
8 providing a software program that is capable of notifying the user of the measured
9 distance.

1 18. A method for determining a light setting for a user using a display
2 using a light sensor positioned in a known position relative to the display, the method
3 comprising:

4 positioning the user in front of the display in order to perform a task using the
5 display;

6 allowing the light sensor to measure light in the and environment of the user; and
7 receiving an analysis of the light measurement.

1 19. The method of claim 18, wherein the method further comprises
2 suggesting a change in light amount in the environment.

1 20. A method for determining a recommended viewing distance for a user
2 using a display, the method comprising:

3 presenting a test pattern on the display;

4 positioning the user in front of the display;

5 displaying a query on the display;

6 accepting a response to the query; and

7 displaying a suggestion regarding recommended viewing distance.

1 21. A method for testing a user's vision using a display, the method
2 comprising:

3 positioning the user in front of the display in order to perform a task using the
4 display;

5 displaying a test pattern on the display for testing vision according to a test selected
6 from the group consisting of an acuity test, a color test, a test for amplitude of
7 accommodation and a test for visual field defect;

8 selecting a test result; and

9 receiving an analysis of the test result.

1 22. A system for monitoring the use of a display by a user, the system
2 comprising:

3 a display used by the user for performance of a task; and

4 a first sensor positioned close to the display and selected from the group consisting of

5 a distance sensor and a light sensor; and

6 a second sensor distinct from the first sensor.

1 23. The system of claim 22, wherein the second sensor is selected from
2 the group consisting of a distance sensor, a noise sensor, a temperature sensor, a humidity
3 sensor and a light sensor.

1 24. The system of claim 22, wherein the second sensor is incorporated
2 into the first sensor.

1 25. The system of claim 22, wherein the first sensor is a distance sensor
2 and the second sensor is a light sensor.

1 26. A system for monitoring the use of a display by a user using the
2 display for performance of a task, the system comprising:
3 a display;
4 a first sensor positioned close to the display and selected from the group consisting of
5 a distance sensor and a light sensor;
6 a second sensor distinct from the first sensor; and
7 a third sensor distinct from the first sensor and distinct from the second sensor.

1 27. A system for monitoring the use of a display by a user using the
2 display for performance of a task, the system comprising:
3 a display;
4 a first sensor positioned close to the display; and
5 three light sensors positioned to determine a source of multidirectional light relative
6 to the user.

1 28. A system for monitoring the use of a display by a user using the
2 display for performance of a task, the system comprising:
3 a display;
4 a first sensor positioned close to the display and selected from the group consisting of
5 a distance sensor and a light sensor; and
6 a software program for processing inputs from the first sensor.

1 29. The system of claim 28, wherein the first sensor is a distance sensor
2 and the software program includes program instructions for determining a user's viewing
3 distance from an output of the distance sensor.

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1 30. The system of claim 28, wherein the software program includes
2 program instructions for accepting sensor inputs representing distance and light
3 measurements over time.

1 31. The system of claim 28, wherein the software program includes
2 program instructions for accepting inputs from one input source selected from the group
3 consisting of a sensor, a user, a mouse and a keyboard.

1 32. A system for monitoring the use of a display by a user using the
2 display for performance of a task, the system comprising:
3 a display;
4 a first sensor positioned close to the display and selected from the group consisting of
5 a distance sensor and a light sensor; and
6 a software program for processing inputs from the first sensor and for displaying a
7 test pattern on the display.

1 33. The system of claim 32, wherein the test pattern is a test pattern usable
2 for at least one test selected from the group consisting of a visual acuity test, a visual field
3 test, an amplitude of accommodation test, and a color sensitivity test.

1 34. A system for monitoring the use of a display by a user using the
2 display for performance of a task, the system comprising:
3 a display;
4 a first sensor positioned close to the display and selected from the group consisting of
5 a distance sensor and a light sensor;
6 a second sensor distinct from the first sensor; and
7 a software program for processing inputs from the first sensor and for displaying a
8 test pattern on the display.

1 35. A system for monitoring the use of a display by a user using the
2 display for performance of a task, the system comprising:
3 a display;
4 a first sensor positioned close to the display and selected from the group consisting of
5 a distance sensor and a light sensor;
6 a second sensor distinct from the first sensor;

- 7 a third sensor distinct from the first sensor and distinct from the second sensor; and
- 8 a software program for processing inputs from at least the first sensor and for
- 9 displaying a test pattern on the display.

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